

MEXICO.

Policy of the Administration on the Boundary Question.

DESIGNS ON THE RICH MINERAL LANDS

President Lerdo on the Projects for Shortening Our Frontier Lines.

MEXICO'S INVESTIGATING COMMISSION.

Sparseness of Population the Cause of Border Troubles.

OUR NEIGHBORS WILL CURE NOTHING.

The Aztecs Resolved to Fight for Their Territory.

(BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.)

WASHINGTON, June 19, 1877.

The suggestion in the *Herald* of yesterday relative to a new boundary between the United States and Mexican territory has attracted the attention of not only our diplomats, but army officers, who are always keen to appreciate reformulations of this character.

THE ONLY PRACTICAL SOLUTION.

Those who have had experience on the frontier say that some such alteration as is laid down on the map is the only practical solution of our border difficulty, not only along the Rio Grande, but so far as it affects it, the territory of Arizona also. The agitation of the question, therefore, is exceedingly palatable to army officers, who declare that unless a natural dividing line is established, different from the existing one, it will be utterly impossible for our government to protect the present border except with an enormous standing army of not less than a regiment to every mile of country along our Southwestern frontier.

THE ADMINISTRATION POLICY.

Though time has not elapsed sufficient to define what the policy of the administration will be in detail, it can be positively stated that the whole force of the government is to be exerted toward the acquisition of the Northern States of Mexico. The Secretary of State, however, disclaims that the massing of evidence of losses of American cattle raisers on the frontier is at the instance of the present administration. His predecessor sought, under a resolution of Congress, to ascertain to what extent our people had been robbed and that information was submitted by the committee to Congress. If additional statements were forwarded to the State Department it might be as a sequence to the labors of the Border Commission four or five years ago, but not at the invitation of the present administration. Of course there is nothing to prevent citizens of Texas from sending forward statements of their losses, which might be the subject of further investigation hereafter.

THE CLIMATE HOPE.

It is understood in official circles that Lerdo has the moral support of the administration as far as it can be unofficially extended, and that the ultimate hope is that it will be for the interest of Mexico to cede to the United States so much of her territory as lies north of the line based upon the natural conformation of the territory and extending from the lower part of Texas in a southwesterly direction and terminating at the twenty-second parallel of latitude.

AFTER RICH MINERAL LANDS.

The late Commissioner of Pensions, Mr. Atkinson, resigned to accept the position of Surveyor General of New Mexico, with the purpose also of looking after rich mineral lands in Northern Mexico. The movement to bring these lands under the dominion of our flag was encouraged by President Grant, and the belief here is that the pressure will be greater in that direction than was that which wrested the Black Hills from the reservation of the Sioux.

THE MEXICAN SOLDIERS RECENTLY CAPTURED ON AMERICAN SOIL.

WASHINGTON, June 19, 1877.

Directions have been given to General Ord, commanding the Department of Texas, to hold for the present the Mexican soldiers who were taken in that State a few days ago, while retreating from the revolutionary forces of Mexico, if their release will lead to an encounter between them and the insurgents; but if they can be released and go to their quarters in Mexico without further trouble, they shall be set free.

INTERVIEW WITH LERDO.

Señor Don Sebastian Lerdo de Tejada, constitutional President of the United States of Mexico, expressed his opinions freely yesterday morning upon the much mooted question of the frontier troubles between the United States and Mexico and the suggested shortening of the boundary line by the acquisition of Mexican territory on the part of the American Union. President Lerdo, who for some time past has been staying at the Windsor Hotel, with his Secretary of State, Don Manuel Romero Rubio, has chosen to come here before the American people through the medium of the press, and upon the present occasion simply performed what he considered his duty as a citizen, in letting it be known through the columns of the *Herald* that he does not agree with any of the propositions made, or positions taken by the *Herald's* correspondents in Cincinnati, or New Orleans, nor in the spirit of the editorials which of late have appeared in this journal.

THE BORDER TROUBLES.

Mr. Schleicher, a member of Congress from Texas, states that the alleged threats of Mexicans on the territory of his State began in the year 1866; but Mr. Lerdo says it might easily be shown that he is far from being accurate, as the raids and counter-raids, now so much complained of by Mexicans, had their origin many years back in the year 1868, when Gortina made himself the enemy of both countries, in his unjustified and bloody career along both banks of the Rio Grande. It is true that since 1868 cattle stealing by the outlaws of both peoples on either side of the frontier has been of alarming frequency; and it is also true that Mexicans, as well as Americans, have been the sufferers by these depredations. The United States government has frequently called the attention of that of Mexico to these crimes along the border, and Mexico has always, Mr. Lerdo maintains, willingly responded in every way within her power, including that of working in combination with the American authorities so that the evil might be abated, but all to no purpose. Lawless men on both banks of the Rio Bravo continued in their criminal ways, and the United States became incensed with Mexico, her weaker neighbor, for not doing what this powerful Union, in all the majesty of its might, was unable to effect. The argument of the strong against the weak always is, "Why don't you do this? why don't you do that?" or the other thing?" The weak party may have that disposition in the world to do what is right, and yet be unable to accomplish all that is demanded. The question then is must a weak party be punished for in-

ability to do what is required when such party evinces the best of intentions to perform what is incumbent upon it, but is unable to do this?

THE ADVANTAGES OF THE FRONTIER.

It is not impossible to guard at all points a frontier of 300 leagues in extent. The United States, with her miserably small army cannot do it, and Mexico, a far weaker power, though not less desirous of fulfilling her treaty and other international obligations, is much less in a condition to guard the immense line of demarcation which separates the two sister republics. There can be no doubt that the citizens of both powers on either margin of the Rio Grande have reason to complain of outrages committed by lawless persons from the opposite side of the stream, and it is equally fair to suppose that the administrations of Washington and of Mexico would do away with all such causes of complaint if it were possible. The law-abiding members of all classes of society ardently desire that murder, robbery, arson and other crimes of whatever complexion they might be, should cease; but this is not possible. Look at the overcrowded records of crime in this enlightened and good governed city, with its magnificent systems of police and detective services. How many heart-rending crimes blacken the fair face of New York; yet would it be fair for an outside power whose interests may or may not have suffered more than her own, to threaten New York with conquest because some of her unfortunate and lawless citizens, escaping from the eye of watchful justice, had done wrong to a powerful neighbor?

CONVENTIONS AND COMMISSIONS.

Soon after the downfall of Maximilian's so-called Empire a convention was signed between the United States and Mexico whereby it was agreed that a mixed commission should settle all claims between these countries. By the provisions of this convention it was settled that a portion of the claims of the one republic might go to offset those of the other, and the balance remaining over against one of them which owed the most money could be paid off in annual instalments of \$300,000. After the Mixed Commission had drawn its slow length along for six or seven years, it appeared that Mexico owed the United States several millions of dollars, although, as was proved after the award in various claims had been given, adjudication was obtained in several instances through false evidence and forged documents. Still, even when the capital of Mexico was occupied by a revolutionary government, that ephemeral Executive did not fail to save the national honor by paying to Washington the first annual payment of \$300,000. So far, then, Mexico has complied with her treaty obligations toward the United States, and there is no good reason to suppose, no matter at what domestic sacrifices she might do it, that she would not pay any additional award that could be had against her through the operation of such other international claim commission as might in the future be appointed to inquire into the nature and gravity of alleged fresh damages caused by the Mexican citizens to American interests.

In 1872 the American Congress appointed an investigating committee, at the head of which was Mr. Robb. From all sources of evidence that was put in before this committee it appeared that Texas had suffered at the hands of "Mexican robbers" to the extent of some \$30,000,000. Everybody who has been in the Texas frontier knows that this is a gross exaggeration, and so well convinced were the American people that it would not stand investigation, that they gave no credence nor heed whatever to the results of the Robb committee. There is not live stock enough in all Southern Texas to make one-third of the value set down by the Robb committee as the Mexicans had stolen. This is a fact which shows how prone the Texans are to draw the long bow in estimating their supposed losses, and if they are liable to exaggerate—not to say, state palpable falsehoods—in an important matter so nearly connected with their own interests, why might they not also perjure with respect to the actual number and magnitude of the supposed incursions made upon their soil by phantom "Mexican robbers?"

A COMMISSION FROM MEXICO.

The Mexican government, hearing the continual complaints of the American press and citizens, determined to take active steps toward ascertaining how much of the supposed injuries could be imputed to want of vigilance on the part of their officials. To this end a commission was named, at the head of which was Don Emilio Velasco and the Licenciado Don Pedro Galindo. The labors of this body covered nearly a year, from the end of 1872 to that of 1873. The government of Mexico notified the administration of General Grant that such a commission had been appointed, so that if the United States felt so inclined their citizens might have appeared by counsel. A lengthy report, which covered a large volume, setting forth the action of this commission, was subsequently published in Mexico, and copies of it were sent to the Legation in Washington for the information of President Grant and his Cabinet. By this report it appeared that while the Mexicans were not without some of the outrages committed against American citizens, the latter, and those of Mexican antecedents, who had domiciled themselves under the American flag, had in their turn inflicted a great many wrongs upon peaceful, law-abiding Mexican citizens, and had stolen their cattle and ill-treated their countrymen. It thus appears again that wrongs had been mutually inflicted upon and received by the people of other nationality; that the sparseness of the population and the usually elements that confronted each other across the river, and not the bad faith of either people or government, were to blame for what had transpired there.

WHO PROFITS BY THE THEFTS?

It might be said in error of Mexico that robberies of cattle from the Americans do not offer the same inducements to thieves that the stealing of Mexican stock does to those living on the left bank of the Rio Grande. The State of Tamaulipas has always been remarkable for its abundance of horned cattle; far more so than that part of Texas which is contiguous to it. So plentiful have been and are the herds that they have often been killed in considerable numbers just for their hides and tallow. There is really no market for them in Texas the case is different. There the inventive genius of the Americans has set up opposite the Mexican line a beef and pork packing establishment which is run by steam. This new industry creates a large demand for live stock, and good prices are paid. Here the stolen cattle of Mexicans and Americans alike find their way into the common shambles, and a common caldron reduces their remains into an unrecognizable mass. Would it not be well for Messrs. Robb and Schleicher to inquire how many hundreds of thousands of their countrymen's herds have gone to the melting pot and the salt barrel in this way?

THAT BURNED SIERRA MADRE REFUGEE.

President Lerdo went on to say that no one who is acquainted with Mexico, or the spirit of patriotism which animates the bosom of her sons, would for a moment harbor the thought that he, or any one else of the great liberal party to which he belongs, could entertain the idea of alienating a palm's breadth of the national territory. A rumor, indeed, had floated about to the effect that certain governing minds in the northern States contemplated the forming of a new nation to be called the Republic of the Sierra Madre. This report originated with Don Placido Vega, who at one time was Governor of the State of Sinaloa, and a general of brigade in the army. Vega had been sent by the government of Juarez with \$150,000 to purchase arms in San Francisco during the time of the French invasion; he became involved in difficulties in California, appeared to have lost the funds entrusted to his care; no arms were forthcoming; the government investigated the matter, found Vega culpable and he was dismissed the public service. From that time the deposed Governor became the avowed enemy of the national government; did all he could to overthrow it, and invented the scheme which had for its object the formation of the imaginary Republic of the Sierra Madre. Of course, no man of standing or intelligence in the country could be bound to support so wild and visionary an idea; it was laughed at by everybody, and believed in by none. At present Vega is an outlaw from Mexico, and is recognized by no party whatever.

SHORTENING THE FRONTIER LINE.

"The coolest piece of political impudence that has been brought before the public for some time," said Mr. Lerdo, "is that of the *Herald's* Cincinnati correspondent, who deliberately lays down on the map of a friendly power a new line of frontier, whereby that power would lose—say, in round numbers, according to its own showing, the enormous area of 300,000 square miles of territory, and more than one million and a half of its inhabitants. He must be oblivious

to the lessons taught by Mexican soldiers to the French troops and those of Maximilian who see the national patrimony either hurried away or wrested from them by brute force. It is a very easy thing, no doubt, for the *Herald's* correspondent to follow a ridge of mountains with his finger on the map of Mexico, but quite another affair to move the American boundary line so far south: There would be just as much reason or justice in attempting to move the present frontier line to the Isthmus of Tehuantepec or the Isthmus of Panama, for that part of it, as to think of shifting it to the Rio Grande to the Sierra Madre. It is absurd to imagine that the Mexicans will negotiate away their territory for gold, or sacrifice the national honor or dignity for any consideration. They may be revolutionary and driving themselves, but they are not the kind of men who would hand over the territory which has armed hand inside the coat of Mexico without her some united as one man against him. It is a shallow pretext that of saying that a mountain range forms a better barrier against bandits than a river or an open plain. Crossing a river or on a level country, the bandit can be pursued and captured, but in a semi-rugged mountainous district, ten evidences can baffle the attempts of a brigade of soldiers to track them out. For this reason the mountains of Mexico have been a curse to the country, for they have sheltered and protected the outlaws from the plains. The mountains of the eastern districts have enabled the Cuban patriots to keep in the field against all the legions of Spain; and for many years the Sierra de Alica, in Jalisco, enabled the Indian robber chief Losada to resist the regular troops of Mexico. The correspondent of the *Herald* points out that there are but five rivers in the mountains, and that each one might be defended with 500 men. What can the man mean by such an absurd idea? Does he want to shut out entirely the Mexicans from intercommunication with the Americans, as the Chinese of old thought to keep back the Tartar tribes behind a great wall? This is all nonsense. Both republics want to know each other better; they require not five, but 5,000 passes and roads whereby commerce and friendship, as well as the civilizing influences of a higher education, may freely flow hither and thither in that unrestrained manner which alone is worthy of republican ideas and of republican people.

ARTILLERY CAN PASS ANYWHERE.

"In Mexico men were sometimes bound to say that artillery could not pass certain places in the country. This idea is entirely absurd. Artillery, guided by intellect and science, can go anywhere, and no frontier line is safe against its attacks. The mountain range laid down as a new frontier by the *Herald's* correspondent might for the present, and during the next few years, have but five precipitous passes, but an aggressive artillery or an advancing commerce would cut down trees from the hill tops, bore holes in the mountains, and after a while leave the now rugged masses of rocks a poorer protection than is at present the Rio Grande against bandits, whether Mexican or American, intent on their prey. What the long line of frontier now dividing Mexico from the United States wants more than anything else is an industrious population of many millions, and a dozen or more railroad lines passing it in all directions.

HAD FOR THE AMERICAN UNION.

"The United States possesses many hundreds of thousands of square miles of territory which will require ages to fully settle up. What, then, can this country want with additional hundreds of thousands of miles of barren, uncultivated Mexico, still more distant than far away Texas or remote Idaho? No; let America be generous; let her cultivate what she has without coveting her neighbor's possessions. Another circumstance should also be looked to by American statesmen. The Southern aspect, which once raised its hydra head under the form of secession, has not been completely laid; it yet stalks about only partially subdued. Now, if to the southern disunion a still greater one is to be created by the annexation of a large foreign territory, inhabited by a distinct race, the heterogeneity of the elements thus brought into contact will not be conducive to the permanence of the American Union. With Northern Mexico as a discontented section, adding her weight to the efforts of the discontented South, it would not be difficult to predict the dire results that must flow from such an unhappy act of circumstances."

LERDO AND THE ADMINISTRATION.

President Lerdo believes that the administration of President Hayes is favorable to his remission in office. This is natural. Mr. Lerdo remarks that he was elected by the untrammelled voice of his fellow citizens to a second term of office, and a successful revolution, which had no foundation in right, ousted him. The President of the United States, remembering that the governments of Juarez and of Lerdo had always frowned down the American rebels who sought recognition at their hands, Mr. Hayes could not now do less than favor in Mexico the suppression of a rebellious movement, seeing that he had lent such good service to put down one at home. When the United States were in the midst of their civil war the French tempted them by offering to help her against the efforts of the disloyal South, the same spirit might be rebuffed for war against Mexico is not forgotten that the United States would not entertain this sordid proposition, nor does she believe now that free America wants to enslave a portion of a sister republic for no other reason, apparently, than that she is weak.

LERDO'S EMBASSIES.

Two generals devoted to the cause of Lerdo have been in this city for some time past, authorized to act as commissioners and form a nucleus here for action at the proper moment. Lerdo is a man who acts quietly, and does not desire to be known as the cause of these efforts. A representative of the Government, informed by a prominent Lerdo officer, now in this city, that there is not a shadow of doubt about Lerdo's being reinstated once more. His adherents are working for him night and day, and a wall of fire is being gradually built up around him. Secret agents of Lerdo are scattered in every city of the Republic, from the Rio Grande to Yucatan, and at a given time they could be ordered to rise and sweep the country with their torches. The notion that Lerdo will fight his way from the frontier to the capital is laughed at by his followers, who say that would take 100,000 men for such a project, and then it might be a failure. According to their views there is an easier and surer mode of operation.

MEXICAN DEFIANCE.

[From the San Francisco Chronicle.]
The Mexican Journalists continue to have a good deal to say about the long-threatened annexation or invasion. Many of them write in defiant tones and are worked up to a war feeling. The old saying of "welcoming Americans with bloody hands to hospitable graves" is being repeated. There is no doubt that the thousands of Mexicans who are flocking to the frontiers of thinking of the result, and Diaz, as the head, would have the united support of the Church party, which has not now and never has had much love for the United States. Should any trifling event arise by which our troops were to follow robbers into Mexico, there is a feeling that under the present native condition of affairs a war might result therefrom.

ST. THOMAS.

EX-PRESIDENT BLANCO AND HIS FEAR OF ASSASSINATION.
ST. THOMAS, June 2, 1877.

Ex-President Guzman Blanco, of Venezuela, is still here. He was to have left in the German steamer for Europe to-day, but one of his children, left behind in Caracas, is very sick, and he will wait here another month, until the child is well enough to come up here.

The ex-President is accompanied to St. Thomas by four of his body guards, and he is never seen, night or day, by the street. A representative of the *Herald* who had been in St. Thomas, and who was informed of these precautions. Some of the Venezuelan newspapers which were great partisans of Guzman Blanco when he was in power are now bitter in their denunciation of him. From Venezuela all is reported quiet.

GENERAL NEWTON'S MOVEMENTS.

General John Newton, of this city, the Chief Engineer in charge of the United States government works at Hell Gate, who sailed for Europe on the 21st of April last, in company with the pilgrims on the *Imman* steamer City of Brussels, with the intention of accompanying them to Rome and other places, has been obliged to abandon the pilgrimage on account of important business engagements in Scotland. The City of Brussels was so long delayed on her voyage, in consequence of breaking her shafts with only two days out from New York, that when General Newton arrived at Glasgow, he found the person he was most anxious to see had left for Spain and France, after waiting in Scotland as long as he could, he was obliged to follow him to those countries, and hence the necessity of abandoning the pilgrimage to Rome.

JEW AND GENTILE.

Refusal to Entertain Hebrews at the Grand Union, Saratoga.

JUDGE HILTON PROSCRIBES ISRAEL

Mr. Seligman's Bitter Rebuke to the Judge.

THE MANAGEMENT'S COMPLAINT.

How Israelites are Said to Ruin the Hotel Business.

WHERE THEY ARE WELCOME.

Our Hebrew Citizens Indignant—Opinions and Vengeful Threats.

(BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.)

SARATOGA, June 19, 1877.

Saratoga has been thrown into quite a ferment over the reported ostracism of the descendants of Abraham at the hands of the Grand Union Hotel managers, Messrs. Clair & Wilkinson. It is true that a policy of discrimination against the Hebrews has been adopted at the Grand Union. The reasons for this course assigned by Messrs. Clair & Wilkinson, as personally stated by them to your correspondent, are substantially these:—

NOW IT BEGINS.

First, as regards the Seligman controversy last Thursday, Mr. Hillman, of New Orleans, came to Saratoga. Mr. Clair & Wilkinson sought to engage rooms for himself and Mr. Seligman for the summer. He was informed very explicitly that the Grand Union Hotel does not court the patronage of the Jews this year, and that he could not be accommodated with room. Mr. Hillman, who is a son-in-law of the banker Seligman, went away, and on the following day Mr. Seligman called on Messrs. Clair & Wilkinson, in company with Mr. Hillman, and hotly inquired if Henry Hilton had given any orders to exclude all Jews from the hotel. Mr. Seligman was invited into the private office of Messrs. Clair & Wilkinson, and a long conversation ensued, in which he was informed of the determination of the management and of the hotel to discriminate severely in the matter of entertaining Jews at the hotel during the present season.

THE CHRISTIAN PROTEST.

He was informed that the policy was the result of no grudge or individual hostility, but that it grew out of the openly declared decision of the great bulk of their guests not to come to the Grand Union Hotel if it was to be frequented, as it was last year, by colonies of the Jewish people. It was explained to Mr. Seligman that his countrymen had for several reasons made themselves obnoxious to the majority of the guests, and that the hotel had been seriously injured by statements circulated abroad to the effect that it was "a Jewish rendezvous." "A Jewish boarding house," and so forth. A great portion of the old guests had written this spring inquiring if the hotel was to be frequented this year as it was last year by people of the Hebrew persuasion.

INEXPLICABLE AT THE CONCERTS.

It was asserted that not only did the Hebrew guests themselves arrogate too many privileges, but that they gathered in the morning and afternoon concerts and at the balls, with large numbers of their friends from outside boarding houses, who occupied the best chairs, to the exclusion and serious inconvenience of the less demonstrative and better-bred class of guests of the hotel. The evil was a serious one, and Messrs. Clair and Wilkinson had adopted the only cure in their power.

FOLLOW MY LEADER.

It was not the lesser class of Hebrews who made the trouble, but those who congregated wherever the leaders of their race were located. The explanation was apparently received as a satisfactory one by Mr. Seligman, who retired, stating that it had been his intention to take a parlor and bedroom for the season, but for the action of Messrs. Clair and Wilkinson. He admitted that the complaint made against a certain class of his countrymen was well founded. This ended the controversy so far as Messrs. Clair and Wilkinson and Mr. Seligman were concerned.

THE MAJORITY RULE.

From a conversation with the former gentlemen it appears that their policy is fixed in the matter. They say that there are not enough Jews to warrant them in making their house an exclusive Jewish resort, and that it must of necessity be one thing or the other. Their decision was warmly commended, they said, by their present guests, one of whom informed your correspondent that it would be the making of the hotel. The management of the hotel has received a large number of telegrams approving their course.

AT CONGRESS HALL.

The proprietors of Congress Hall are not sorry at the course taken by the Grand Union management. They say that they question no man as to his creed, whether he be of Israel or not, or whether he be a democrat or republican. They have among their guests a large number of excellent Hebrew people, and expect others to come. All they demand is respectability and a sufficient competency to pay for their entertainments. There are certain classes of Gentiles, as well as Jews, whose presence they do not permit, but no respectable lady or gentleman is turned away from Congress Hall while there are rooms to spare.

UNITED STATES HOTEL.

Messrs. Tompkins, Perry, Gage and Janssen, of the United States Hotel, stated the "situation" at their hotel very tersely:—

"We turn nobody away on account of his religion," was Hiram Tompkins' prompt response to your correspondent's inquiry as to how they stood on the question of the Hebrew children. With a quiet smile Dr. Perry remarked:—

"We are particular whom we take in, but there are a great many nice people among the Jews. We regard the character of the individual rather than his race or creed. Respectability is our standard, not race."

"Have you any Jews in your hotel at the present time?"

"Several very excellent families," was the reply.

The United States evidently means to cultivate a conciliatory policy toward the descendants of Abraham.

THE CLARENDON.

Mr. Charles E. Leland, proprietor of the Clarendon Hotel here, Delavan at Albany and Rossmore at New York, informed me that it has been, and will be, the well known Leland custom never to question the creed, faith or politics of any lady or gentleman guest, provided they are respectable and pay their bills, and that when any persons present themselves at his hotel as guests he does not ask whether they are Jews or Gentiles.

MR. SELIGMAN'S STATEMENT.

Mr. Joseph Seligman, who is stopping at the Clarendon Hotel, made the following statement this evening:—

"A portion of my family have been in the habit, for years, of spending the latter part of the month of June and the beginning of the month of July at the Grand Union Hotel, in Saratoga Springs, after which we repair to our own estate at Long Branch and spend the balance of the summer there. I requested a gentleman on Wednesday last to select proper rooms for myself and wife at the Grand Union Hotel in this village. He met me at the depot on Friday morning last, and informed me that he had taken rooms at the Clarendon Hotel, inasmuch as Judge Hilton had given peremptory orders to Mr. Wilkinson not to receive any Jews as guests to that hotel for the season. After tea on Friday evening I called upon Mr. Wilkinson to ascertain the cause of this ridiculous and foolish order. Mr. Wilkinson told me frankly that he regretted very much to disappoint me, but that the facts of the case were that the Grand Union Hotel had done a poor business last season and that some of the clerks in the hotel ascribed it to the

fact that there were so many of this class of people living at that hotel, and that there was considerable prejudice against them on the part of Christian families. Hence it was concluded to ask if, in the accommodation of Jews, without any exception at all, the hotel would not do a better business; that he agreed that it was a doubtful policy and that it was not at all impossible that the order would be changed in a few weeks. Upon hearing this I returned to my hotel and wrote Judge Hilton, whom I knew and had occasionally met at Mr. A. T. Stewart's private house, giving him in plain, unvarnished English my views of the folly he was committing. This letter will probably appear in the New York papers to-morrow if my friends choose to publish it. One of the New York papers of to-day contains a report made by Judge Hilton to one of its reporters, which is full of errors, inaccuracies and misstatements, and which I shall reply to at my leisure."

THE FEELING IN THE CITY—MR. SELIGMAN'S LETTER TO JUDGE HILTON—OPINIONS OF LEADING HEBREWS—A MASS MEETING THREATENED.

The action of the managers of the Grand Union Hotel at Saratoga in refusing to entertain Mr. Joseph Seligman, the well known Jewish banker of Wall street, and his family, by order of Judge Hilton, caused considerable comment yesterday among the Hebrew population of our city. The parties to the controversy are well known and highly respected. As a matter of course both gentlemen have their champions, the Israelites very generally expressing indignation at what they consider an insult to them through one of their representative men. Some of them even talked of withdrawing their patronage from the establishments of the late Mr. A. T. Stewart as a means of expressing their disapproval of Mr. Hilton's action in the premises, while others advocate the holding of a mass meeting of the Hebrew residents to take concerted action thereupon.

THE HISTORY OF THE TROUBLE.

The opening of the difficulty lay in the refusal of the managers of the Grand Union Hotel, at Saratoga, to receive Mr. Seligman as a guest, under a general prohibition to admit Jews. It seems that Mr. Seligman, with his wife and family, was prevented from coming to this city by an accident on one of the Albany boats. Related at Saratoga, they applied for rooms at the Grand Union, where they had been guests in previous seasons, and were informed by the management that by Judge Hilton's order they could not be entertained.

MR. LAUTERBACH'S VIEW.

Mr. Edward Lauterbach, counsel for Mr. Seligman, to a *Herald* reporter yesterday gave this version of the affair:—"Mr. Seligman, he reports, arrived in Saratoga on the night of the 13th inst., and made application at the hotel for himself and family. He was refused by the clerk that it was against the rules of the hotel to admit Jews. Mr. Hilton had made the rule imperative, as last year there were some Jews among the guests, and some of the Christian boarders had left on this account. There was plenty of room in the hotel at the time, but no room for Jews."

MR. SELIGMAN TO JUDGE HILTON.

Mr. Seligman at once went to the Clarendon Hotel, where he hastily penned the following sharp letter to Judge Hilton:—

CLARENDON HOTEL, SARATOGA, June 15, 1877.
JUDGE HENRY HILTON, care Messrs. A. T. Stewart & Co., New York.

DEAR JUDGE:—My family have for many years patronized the Union Hotel, at Saratoga, but were informed yesterday by your manager that, under the pretext of a general prohibition to admit Jews, they were refused admission to the hotel. I am sorry to hear that you have adopted this policy, and that you are adding to the many serious mistakes you have committed since you inherited that estate, by refusing to entertain those who are entitled to the same treatment as people, regardless of their respectability, wealth and proper bearing, merely to pander to a vulgar prejudice against a race which has done you no wrong, and which you will find to be no less useful to the country than any other nationality. You are no judge of American character, and you are no judge of the value of the Union Hotel to the city of Saratoga.

The civilized world is beginning to be more tolerant in matters of faith, or creed, or birth than you believe or would have them. They despise intolerance, low of heart and vulgar, and will not patronize a man who seeks to make money by pandering to the prejudice of the vulgar.

Now permit me, dear Judge, in your own interest and the interest of the Union Hotel, to suggest to you the course of action which you have acquired, to say that you are adding to the many serious mistakes you have committed since you inherited that estate, by refusing to entertain those who are entitled to the same treatment as people, regardless of their respectability, wealth and proper bearing, merely to pander to a vulgar prejudice against a race which has done you no wrong, and which you will find to be no less useful to the country than any other nationality. You are no judge of American character, and you are no judge of the value of the Union Hotel to the city of Saratoga.

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